







PROCEEDINGS

AT THE

*Eighteenth*

ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL

OF THE

ROYAL

GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND,

HELD AT THE

FREEMASON'S TAVERN, GREAT QUEEN STREET,

ON SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 1863.

CHARLES DICKENS, ESQ.,

IN THE CHAIR.

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LONDON:

PRINTED BY FREDERIC LEDGER, CATHERINE STREET,  
STRAND.



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792  
R81p  
1863

# Royal General Theatrical Fund.



PATRONESS,  
HER MOST GRACIOUS MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

## VICE-PRESIDENTS.

THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF LONGFORD.

THE RIGHT HON. THE LORD TENTERDEN.

THE RIGHT HON. THE LORD HOUGHTON.

THE LORD ERNEST BRUCE.

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GEORGE BORLASE CHILDS, ESQ.

RICHARD CHURCHILL, ESQ.

*Past Sheriffs  
of London and  
Middlesex.*

*Gen Res English*

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 WM. COOKE, ESQ.  
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FORBES WINSLOW, ESQ., M.D.

HONORARY SOLICITOR.

THOMAS J. JERWOOD, ESQ., ELY PLACE.

HONORARY TREASURER.

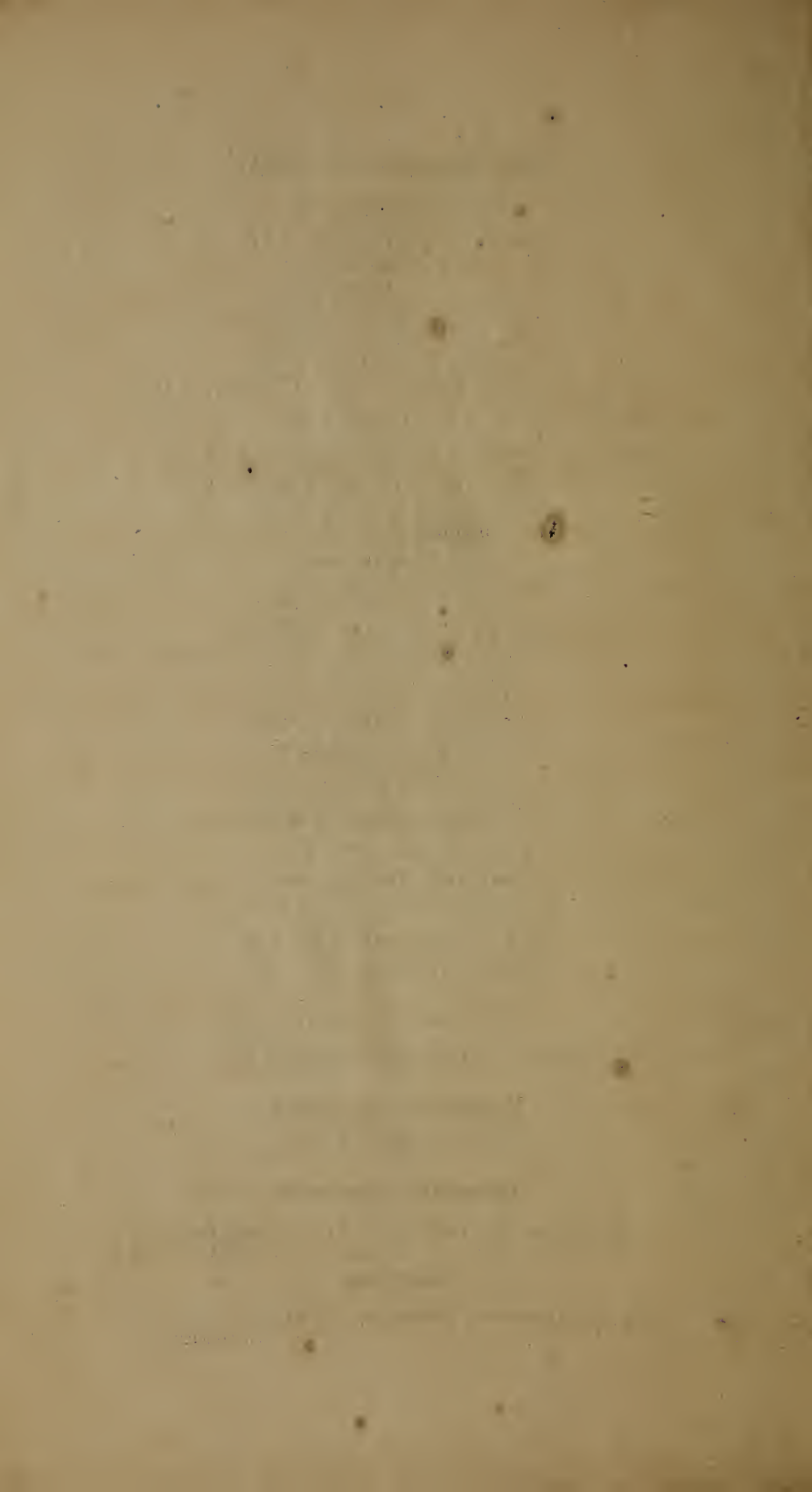
J. B. BUCKSTONE, ESQ.

HONORARY PHYSICIAN.

JOHN HASTINGS, ESQ., M.D., ALBEMARLE STREET.

SECRETARY.

MR. CULLENFORD, THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.



THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET,

*August 24th, 1863.*

MY DEAR DICKENS,

The Directors and Members of the Royal General Theatrical Fund desire me to thank you for the signal service you rendered to their Institution, by promptly undertaking to preside over the last Festival of the Fund, when Mr. Wilkie Collins, who was to have been the Chairman on that occasion, was prevented by severe illness. "A friend in need" is the best of friends, and you were indeed our friend when you once more came amongst us, and gave us the charm of your eloquence and the grace of your countenance. That we may have the pleasure of seeing you support Mr. Wilkie Collins at our next Dinner, is the earnest wish of all the Members of the General Theatrical Fund, and more particularly of

Your old friend and ardent admirer,

JOHN B. BUCKSTONE.

## SECTION

The first part of the paper is devoted to a general discussion of the problem. It is shown that the problem is of great importance in the theory of the differential equations of the second order. The second part of the paper is devoted to a detailed study of the problem. It is shown that the problem is of great importance in the theory of the differential equations of the second order. The third part of the paper is devoted to a detailed study of the problem. It is shown that the problem is of great importance in the theory of the differential equations of the second order. The fourth part of the paper is devoted to a detailed study of the problem. It is shown that the problem is of great importance in the theory of the differential equations of the second order. The fifth part of the paper is devoted to a detailed study of the problem. It is shown that the problem is of great importance in the theory of the differential equations of the second order. The sixth part of the paper is devoted to a detailed study of the problem. It is shown that the problem is of great importance in the theory of the differential equations of the second order. The seventh part of the paper is devoted to a detailed study of the problem. It is shown that the problem is of great importance in the theory of the differential equations of the second order. The eighth part of the paper is devoted to a detailed study of the problem. It is shown that the problem is of great importance in the theory of the differential equations of the second order. The ninth part of the paper is devoted to a detailed study of the problem. It is shown that the problem is of great importance in the theory of the differential equations of the second order. The tenth part of the paper is devoted to a detailed study of the problem. It is shown that the problem is of great importance in the theory of the differential equations of the second order.



## ADDRESS.

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IN presenting to the Patrons and Friends of the ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND the Report of the EIGHTEENTH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL, again the Directors have the cheerful duty of thankful congratulation on the state of the Institution. They feel that, supported by the continuance of that distinguished patronage which has been hitherto so kindly bestowed upon the Fund, and presided over by individuals so distinguished as have honoured the Chair on the occurrence of the Anniversaries, there can be no doubt that the ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND will be second to no benevolent institution in the kingdom. Still, they feel that much remains to be done—that the objects of the Association are still imperfectly known; and that as each succeeding year will add to the number of claimants, so great exertions will be necessary to obtain increased support, in order to carry out fully the praiseworthy intentions of its founders. The continued support of the public is, therefore, to be desired; and it is hoped that the administration of the affairs is such as to secure that desirable result.

It should be borne in mind that, in this Institution, there is *no restriction* whatever; that it is not alone those who have filled London engagements in one or other particular theatre, but that performers over the whole empire, being members, are objects for its sympathy and relieving care.

The Directors again return their grateful thanks to Charles Dickens, Esq., Benjamin Bond Cabbell, Esq., M.P., and W. C. Macready, Esq., the Trustees of the Fund; to Benjamin Webster, Esq., Charles Kean, Esq., F.S.A., T. P. Cooke, Esq., Andrew Arcedeckne, Esq., F. W. Janvrin, Esq., and to Mrs. Theodore Martin, (late Miss Helen Faucit,) for their constant assistance and support from the foundation of the Association.

To the Lord Ernest Bruce, V.C., W. H. West Betty, Charles

Mamby, F.R.S., William Raymond Sams, Charles Hill, E. T. Smith, John Brady, M. P., Thomas J. Jerwood, John Reddish, John Hastings, M.D., Robert Bell, Mark Lemon, H. G. Day, William Creswick, Walter T. Fawcett, Frederic Ledger, and Henry Hill, Esquires, for their kind and constant patronage.

They also beg to thank the Lord Viscount Raynham, M.P., Sir Edwin Landseer, W. Cooke, Esq., David Roberts, Esq., R.A., Z. Watkins, Esq., Forbes Winslow, Esq., the Baron Lionel de Rothschild, H. W. Phillips, Esq., H. M. Parker, Esq., and John Douglas, Esq., for their liberal support.

The Directors also have pleasure in acknowledging their great obligations to Mr. Coote, the ladies and gentlemen of the musical profession, who so ably assisted them on the day of the Festival, and who have, with such continued kindness, displayed their friendly interest in the Institution on every anniversary.

Finally, the Directors cannot but congratulate their Friends and Patrons upon the increased support which the Institution has received during the past year. They hope that they may be allowed to view it as a mark of approbation of their efforts, and beg to assure their patrons that every exertion will be made to merit their future favour.

*Committee Room,  
Theatre Royal Lyceum,  
September, 1863.*



(FROM THE *ERA*, APRIL 11TH, 1863.)

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## THE ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.

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THE EIGHTEENTH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL of that admirable Institution, the Royal General Theatrical Fund, was celebrated on Saturday (4th inst.) at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, with a renewal of that display of hearty zeal in a worthy cause which has always characterised previous gatherings; and under circumstances that gave an additional brilliancy to the proceedings. An Institution founded for such an excellent purpose, and whose resources are so ably administered, might well command the support, as it has long secured the confidence, of all who are admirers, as well as members, of the Histrionic Profession. The flourishing Financial condition to which it has attained, the business-like order and regularity that characterise all its transactions, and the cordial co-operation it has received from the public, who have recognised the advantages it affords to the Actor in preserving his self-respect, whilst it insures, in his declining days, the reward of the prudence he has exhibited in the more prosperous period of his life, have all contributed to the maintenance of the high estimation in which this Society has been held, and caused these periodical *reunions* of the Patrons and the Professors of the Dramatic Art to be looked forward to with increasing interest.

With such a President for the evening as Mr. CHARLES DICKENS—a name honoured wherever the works of an English author are known—and whose

reputation as a post-prandial speaker is as extensively popular as his productions, it was to be reasonably anticipated that the usually large attendance on these occasions would be considerably augmented. The anticipations thus formed were, indeed, fully realised, and though the natural desire to avail themselves of the holiday interval may have accounted for the absence of many faces familiar to the footlights that would otherwise have cheered the room by their presence, the sister arts of Literature, Music, and the Drama were well represented by those eminent in each who were to be included among the company.

Soon after six Mr. CHARLES DICKENS assumed his position in the chair, supported by

Mr. Buckstone	Alderman Phillips	Sergeant Ballantine
Mr. T. P. Cooke	Mr. Alfred Wigan	J. Hastings, Esq., M.D.
Mr. Edmund Yates	Captain Ward	(the Hon. Physician),

and amongst those present at the general tables we observed

Messrs. John Cunningham	H. Graves	Wm. T. Farnell
— Semple	Marcus Stone, Jun.	F. Cosens
— Chippendale	— Izzard	F. Buckstone, jun.
John Povey	Frank Musgrave	C. J. Stone
S. Coyne	— Swanborough, sen.	W. S. Burton
G. Turpin	H. Howe	William Searle
— Flatou	Henry Huggins	H. S. Tubb
W. Creswick	D. Cronin	H. M. Arliss
E. W. Cathie	J. C. Pawle	L. Filmore
J. H. Cathie	M. Pratt	T. J. Jerwood
F. Ledger	Henry Loraine	R. Churchill
E. L. Blanchard	George Child	Howard Paul
F. Ledger, jun.	P. Berlyn	H. Hill
E. Canton, M.R.C.S.	J. Lovesy	H. G. Day
P. Matthews	D. Nicholson	T. Williams
T. Bishop	J. W. Fentiman	J. W. Dantziger
T. H. Lacy	H. C. Craven	— Tinsley
E. Dyas	Thomas Sadgrove	W. S. Hale
J. W. Ray	Charles Clement	E. Villiers
G. Everett	Thomas Scott	R. W. Fleming
E. Addison	S. Kennedy	J. Frith
Dillon Croker	H. F. Clare	W. Clark, (of the
B. Foster	E. Warwick	Haymarket Theatre)
Charles Dickens, Jun.	J. Reddish	J. Worrell
W. Wilde	W. H. Wills	
Lewis Fillmore	John Matthew	
	W. T. Fawcett	

numbering altogether above two hundred. Amongst these were many who for the first time attended the banquet, and thus showed an increasing interest was taken in the prosperity of the Institution.

THE CHAIRMAN, who on rising was received with loud cheering and clapping of hands, gave "The Queen." He said—Ladies and Gentlemen, in proposing to you to drink the loyal toast, "The Queen," I have the gratification of informing you that her Majesty has again repeated her munificent annual donation of one hundred pounds in aid of the Royal General Theatrical Fund. (Cheers.)

The toast was drunk with every demonstration of loyalty.

THE CHAIRMAN—Ladies and Gentlemen,—It is not the least notable circumstance in the young lives of the two exalted persons who have lately engrossed so much general attention, that as each is the deserving object of the other's free choice, so the future career of both must henceforth for ever be inseparable from that of a free people deserving to be free. Surely no old poet, or painter, or sculptor ever conceived a more graceful or beautiful marriage procession than that of the other day, where all ages, all classes, all conditions of the fruition of hope or the disappointment of hope joined together in one great equal, generous enthusiasm in behalf of those two young people in the flush of life and fortune, and governed themselves and governed their tempers in honour of the interesting scene. (Cheers.) I am sure you will agree with me in saying, never may that young Prince and Princess, and the great true-hearted English people, be less worthy of one another, or less at peace with one another, than they were that day. (Cheers.) I beg to propose to you to drink their "Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family."

The toast was drunk with much enthusiasm.

THE CHAIRMAN—Ladies and Gentlemen,—It is equally the characteristic of the Army and of the Navy that the members of those two brave services



very seldom talk about their duty, and always do it. I cannot better testify my respect for that noble model than by adopting it. I therefore beg to propose to you "The Army and Navy and the Volunteers," with which toast I will connect the name of Captain Ward, of the Army, who sits upon my right. (Cheers.)

The toast having been drunk,

Captain WARD said—Mr. Chairman, Ladies, and Gentlemen,—I tender you my kindest thanks for the honour you have done the service to which I belong, as well as that of the sister profession and the Volunteers. I have, I assure you, always taken the greatest interest in the Dramatic Art, and I wish the Institution well with all my heart. (Cheers.)

The Toastmaster having commanded the company to charge their glasses for a bumper toast.

The CHAIRMAN, who on rising was most enthusiastically greeted, said—Ladies and Gentlemen, with my present responsibilities impending over me, I happened the other night, as I sat alone, to be reading a paper in *The Tatler* referring to the time when Mr. Powell's company of performing puppets was in high vogue with persons of quality. In that number of *The Tatler* the brilliant essayist gives a humorous description of a contest then raging between two ladies at Bath—Prudentia and Florimel—as to which of them should set the fashion to the greatest number of imitators. In the course of this noble struggle Florimel bespoke *Alexander the Great* to be acted by the players, and Prudentia bespoke *The Creation of the World*, to be acted by the puppets: at the same time darkly putting it about, for the confusion and ridicule of her rival, that the puppet Eve, whom I suppose to have been but indifferently modelled, would be found to be in figure "the most like Florimel that ever was seen." (Laughter.) Now what were the missing charms, what were the defective points in this wooden lady's anatomy does not appear, otherwise I should have had the honour of delicately stating them to this company; but it does appear that his Worship, the Mayor,

inclined to the wooden side of the question, and that on high moral grounds he greatly preferred those innocent creatures, the puppets, to those wicked players. (Laughter.) Now ladies and gentlemen, as I have a profound veneration for Mayors and such like (laughter) this sentiment caused me to close the book, and to consider how much we should gain if there were no Manager now but Mr. Powell, and if there were no Actors now but puppets. (Laughter.) In the first place (and on the immense advantages to be reaped here I have no doubt we shall be all agreed), there would be no Fund, no dinner, no chairman, no speech. (Laughter.) Then on Saturdays there would be no treasury, although I am told that that great point has occasionally been gained even under the existing system (laughter); there would never be any throwing up of parts, there would never be any colds, there would never be any little jealousies or dissensions; the two leading ladies might dress for any length of time in the same room, without the remotest danger of ever coming to words, and the loftiest tragedian that ever was or will be, might be doubled up with his legs round his neck, and put away in the same box with the reddest nosed, and the most flowered waistcoated of comic countrymen. (Laughter.) Now these I considered to myself were the points to be gained. On the other hand there would be human interest to be lost, there would be the human face to be lost, which, after all, does stand for a little, and last, not least, there would be that immense amount of comfort and satisfaction to be lost by a large number of well-meaning persons, which they constitutionally derive from slightly disparaging those who entertain them, (Cheers and laughter.) This last high moral gratification, this cheap, this complacent self-assertion I felt could not possibly be parted with, and, therefore, I quickly came to the conclusion that we must have those wicked players after all. (Cheers and laughter.) Ladies and gentlemen, it is an astonishing thing to me but within my limited range of observation and experience, it is, nevertheless,

true, that there should be, and that there is, in a part of what we call the world, which certainly is in the main a kind, good-natured, always-steadily-improving world, this curious propensity to run up a little score against, and, as it were, to be even with those who amuse or beguile them. "That man in the Farce last night made me laugh so much," says Portman Square, Esq., at breakfast, "that I hope there may be nothing absolutely wrong about him, but I begin to think this morning there must be." (Laughter.) "My dear," says Mr. Balham Hill to Mrs. Balham Hill, "I was so profoundly affected at the Theatre last night, and I felt it so very difficult to repress my sobs when the poor mad King listened in vain for the breathing of his dead daughter, that I really feel it due to myself rather to patronise that gentleman this morning. I felt it a kind of compensation to myself to regard him as an extraordinary man, having no recognised business that can be found in the 'Post-office Directory.' (Laughter.) I feel it necessary to put up with him, as it were as a kind of unaccountable creature who has no counting-house anywhere; in short, to bear with him as a sort of marvellous child in a Shaksperian go-cart." (Roars of Laughter.) Ladies and Gentlemen this is quite true, in a greater or less degree, I think, of all artists; but it is particularly true of the Dramatic artist, and it is so strange to me. Surely, it cannot be because he dresses himself up for his part, for, as you all know very well, there is an enormous amount of dressing and making-up going on in high stations all around us. I never saw a worse make-up in the poorest country Theatre than I can see in the House of Commons any night when there is a message from the Lords (laughter); and I assure you, on my personal veracity, that I have known a Lord High Chancellor at twenty-five shillings a week, who, in his wig and robes, looked the part infinitely better than the real article at fifteen thousand a year. (Much laughter.) Ladies and Gentlemen, I think the secret cannot lie here; I think the truth is, that this little harmless disposi-



tion occupies a little quiet, out-of-the-way corner of our nature, and as I think it a little ungracious, and a little ungenerous, and certainly more so than it is meant to be, I always, whether in public or in private, on principle steadily oppose myself to it for this reason, which I have endeavoured to explain to you, although I am now going to urge upon you the case of, and am going to entreat your active sympathy with this General Theatrical Fund on this eighteenth anniversary, you shall hear from me nothing conventional about the

Poor player

Who struts and frets his hours upon the stage.

which shall in any way separate him otherwise than favourably, from the great community of us poor players, who all strut and fret our little hours upon this stage of life. His work, if he be worth anything to himself or to any other man, is at least as real and as hard to him as the banker's is to him, or the broker's to him, or the professional man's to him, or the merchant's to him. His Fund is a business Fund, and is conducted on sound, business, honourable, independent principles. (Hear, hear.) It is a Fund, as many here already know, for granting annuities to such members as may be disqualified by age, sickness, or infirmity from pursuing the Theatrical Profession, and also for extending aid to the sick, I think in some cases even when they are not members, and to the bereaved survivors of the dead. It is a Fund to which the members contribute periodically, according to certain carefully calculated scales, very often out of very imperfect and very uncertain earnings. It is a Fund which knows no distinction whatever of Theatre, and knows no grades whatever of Actors. I have had the honour of being one of its Trustees from the hour of its first establishment (cheers), and I bear testimony with admiration to the extraordinary patience, steadiness, and perseverance with which those payments are made. (Cheers.) Therefore, ladies and gentlemen, you see that I occupy here the vantage ground of entreating you to help those who do really and truly

help themselves, who do not come here to-night for a mere field-night and theatrical display, but who, as it were, rise to the surface once in every twelve months to assure you of their constancy and good faith, and then burrow down to work again, many of them surrounded by innumerable obstacles—many of them working under great difficulties, and, believe me, with little cheer or encouragement throughout the whole toiling year, and in obscurity enough. (Hear, hear.) Now, ladies and gentlemen, in defiance of all these heavy blows and great discouragement in the Actor's life, I fearlessly add these words—if there be any creature here, knowing a Theatre well, who knows any kind of place, no matter what, cathedral, church, chapel, tabernacle, high cross, market, change, where there is a more sacred bond of charitable brotherhood, where there is a more certain reliance to be placed on sympathy with affliction, where there is a greater generosity in ready giving, where there is a higher and more sacred respect for family ties, where there is habitually a more cheerful, voluntary bearing of burthens on already heavily burthened backs, then let him take his money to that place, to me unknown, and not produce it here (cheers); but if he altogether fails in such knowledge, then let him communicate with Mr. Cullenford (laughter), now sitting expectant at a card-table, and let him communicate to Mr. Cullenford something to this Fund's advantage, as he respects all the true saints in the Calendar, and as he defies and despises all the sham saints out of it. (Cheers and laughter.) As I have taken upon myself to say what a good corporation the Players are among themselves, and how cheerily and readily they invariably help one another, I may not unreasonably be asked by an outsider why he should help them. If it were the claims of an individual that I was advocating here in these days, I should be met, and very properly met, by the question, What is his case? What has he done? Moreover, as to that agglomeration of individuals, the Theatrical Profession, we are most of us constantly



met with a reference to the times when there were better Actors, and when there was a better Stage literature, and with a mournful shrugging of shoulders over the present state of things. Now, accepting the theatrical times exactly as they stand, and seeking to make them no better than they are, but always protesting against anybody's seeking to make them worse, the difficulty with me standing before you is not to say what the Actor has done, but to say what he has not done, and is not doing every night. (Hear, hear.) I am very fond of the Play, and herein lies one of the very charms of the Play to me; for example, when I am in front, and when I discharge for the moment all my personal likings and friendships for those behind—when I am in front any night and when I see, say, my friend Mr. Buckstone's eye roll into the middle of the pit with that fine expression in it of a comically suspended opinion which I like so much, how do I know upon whom it alights, or what good it does that man? Here is some surly morose creature come into the Theatre bent upon the morrow on executing some uncharitable intention, and the eye of Mr. Buckstone dives into his right-hand trousers pocket where his angry hand is clenched, and opens his hand and mellows it, and shakes it in quite a philanthropic manner. I hear a laugh there from my left (from Mr. T. P. Cooke.) How do I know how many a lout has been quickened into activity by Mr. T. P. Cooke's hornpipe? (Cheers.) How do I know on how many a stale face and heart Long Tom Coffin, and Nelson's coxswain, and Black-Eyed Susan's William, have come healthily dashing, like the spray of the sea? Over and over again it is my delight to take my place in the Theatre next to some grim person who comes in a mere figure of snow, but who gradually softens and mellows until I am almost led to bless the face that creases with satisfaction until it realises Falstaff's wonderful simile of being "like a wet cloak ill laid up." It is a joke at my home that generosity on the stage always unmans me, and that I

invariably begin to cry whenever anybody on the stage forgives an enemy or gives away a pocket-book. (Laughter.) This is only another and a droller way of experiencing and saying that it is good to be generous, and good to be open-handed, and that it is a right good thing for society, through its various gradations of stalls, boxes, pit, and gallery, when they come together with but one great, beating, responsive heart among them, to learn such a truth together. (Cheers.) Depend upon it the very best among us are often bad company for ourselves (I know I am very often); and in bringing us out of that, and in keeping us company, and in showing us ourselves and our kind in a thousand changing forms of humour and fancy, the Actor, all the solemn humbugs on the earth to the contrary notwithstanding, renders a high and an inestimable service to the community every night of his life. (Hear, hear.) I dare say the feeling peculiar to a Theatre is as well known to everybody here as it is to me, of having for an hour or two quite forgotten the real world, and of coming out into the street with a kind of wonder that it should be wet, and dark, and cold, and full of jostling people and irreconcilable cabs. (Laughter.) By the remembrance of that delightful dream and waking; by all your remembrance of it from your childhood until now; and by the remembrance of that long glorious row of wonderful lamps; and by the remembrance of that great mysterious curtain behind it; and by the remembrance of those enchanted people behind that, who are disenchanted every night, and go out into the wet and worry; by all these things I entreat you not to go out into Great Queen-street by-and-by, without saying that you have done something for this fleeting fairyland which has done so much for us. (Loud cheering.) Ladies and gentlemen, I beg to propose to you "The General Theatrical Fund."

The toast was drunk upstanding, with three times three.

Mr. BUCKSTONE, who was received with much

cheering, said—Ladies and Gentlemen—(Applause)—If there is any one circumstance that can make our Festival of to-day more successful, more cheerful, and, I hope, more profitable than any of its seventeen predecessors, it is in the auspicious fact of the chair being occupied on this occasion by Mr. Charles Dickens. To see his face here again, to listen to his well-known voice once more, most certainly illustrates the frequently repeated exclamation, when long-separated friends have met, “Why this looks like old times,” and so it does, and, in one sense, quite refutes the assertion that we cannot recall the past, for with his presence, and with that of so many of our old supporters of the General Theatrical Fund, we *do* recall the past, and that too in the pleasantest and most genial way. (Cheers.) It is, however, necessary that I should explain the chief cause of Mr. Dickens being our Chairman to-night, as to omit that explanation would be unjust to a highly-gifted gentleman who was to have held that position this evening. Some months ago it was decided by the Committee of our Fund to solicit the aid of Mr. Wilkie Collins, to which solicitation he complied in the most prompt and in the kindest manner; but in the course of time he was seized with an illness so serious that he was utterly prostrated. He wrote to acquaint me of it, though he still hoped to be here, and said, that “if he could but stand on his legs he would keep his promise;” at last not finding his health restored, he was compelled, much against his will, to declare the impossibility of his being able to attend. The time for this Festival was fast approaching, and what to do the Directors did not know. In this emergency we applied to Mr. Dickens, who kindly consented to come to the rescue, and happily here he is, and here we are. (Great cheering.) Though I must inform you that Mr. Collins in his last communication told me he only looked upon his attendance as deferred, and, therefore, we still indulge in the hope of seeing him present at some future time, while nothing, gentlemen, can give



a greater proof of the good feeling of Mr. Dickens towards our Fund, than to tell you that this is the third time he has occupied the chair on this occasion, and we all of us heartily hope it may not be the last. (Cheers.) It is now my duty, gentlemen, to proceed to some figures and dry details, and to tell you what we are, and what we are doing. We have now eighteen annuitants, receiving from thirty to ninety pounds per annum; of those eighteen you will be pleased to hear that fourteen are ladies, while the entire number are living in comparative comfort on what they are entitled to, and blessing the day when they first became subscribers to our Fund. During the past year we have paid to these annuitants no less a sum than £802 10s., while, after meeting many necessary expenses, which are set forth in our balance-sheet, our invested capital, after this night is over, will not fall far short of £13,000; but, gentlemen, we are still compelled to be careful and cautious, and still compelled to call upon your generous aid in every way in our power, for, over and above these eighteen annuitants, we shall shortly have five more eligible, and who will most probably claim their incomes. (Cheers.) And now, gentlemen, to stimulate you to be liberal to-night, I have only to inform you that our good and gracious Queen still remembers the poor Player, and that her sixteenth munificent donation of £100 has been received. Then is there not hope for the Drama, and hope for its Professors, when a Monarch in the midst of such affliction as she has suffered can send forth her aid to "us youth," and encourage us to go on and prosper; and is there not still further hope when we look to the Prince of Wales, and see how often he has visited the Theatres recently? Is there not hope in knowing that he, like his illustrious and lamented father, is fond of the Drama? So is our Queen, his much beloved mother, whom at no distant date we yet trust and pray to see again amongst us. So was his great grandfather, George the Third, fond of the Play; and to see the Prince like them, and following their ex-

ample, is indeed “a joy” (for a long time) if not “for ever.” For what, gentlemen, would become of the noble Drama of our country—what would become of the cheerfulness of the country if we had upon the throne a serious Sovereign? That there is a party that would be glad of such a gloomy period we well know; but what *is* that party?—of what manner of men is it composed? Why, of a class of miserable people, who would deprive the hard-working public of fields and fresh air on a Sunday, and on that day, too, would have the audacity to “rob a poor man of his beer.” (Immense applause.) And now, gentlemen, there is a subject I would delicately touch upon, because I think the time is coming when what I would suggest must be done. You all know there are two large and wealthy Dramatic Funds, those of Drury-lane and Covent-garden, possessing between them nearly £200,000. The members of these funds are fast dying off, and from the position of the two Theatres—one of them no longer having anything to do with the drama, it is not likely there will be many more claimants upon their capital. Then what is to become of it? I certainly know a hale and hearty gentleman connected with one of these Funds who maintains it to be a *Tontine*, and as he means to outlive all the rest of the members, looks forward to the happy day when he can pocket the entire capital for his own use. But, gentlemen, if the resources of these two large funds could be amalgamated with those of the General Fund, the Dramatic Sick Fund, and, above all, with the Dramatic College, what might be done with such an amount of money? The College could be nobly endowed, its schools established, all annuities would be well secured, while, to satisfy the annuitants and officers of the two great Funds, I should propose their incomes and salaries should be increased one-third beyond what they now receive; and if this is not done, in a very few years the large capital of the Drury-lane and Covent-garden Funds will be lost to the Dramatic Profession, and the labours of such men as David Garrick, and the great

Actors and gentlemen who founded these Funds will have come to an ignominious end. (Cheers.) But, gentlemen, this is not the question of the present moment. My vocation this evening is to plead to you in behalf of the fund you have come to serve, and on behalf of the members of a Profession that you all admire, for if I could read the secrets of your hearts I know I could point out many here who at some time or other in their lives have had a fancy for the Stage, and have looked upon it as an arena where they could have shone with peculiar brilliancy, and I have also no doubt there are many amongst you, if you have not had this fancy, have at least had a turn for dramatic writing, and perhaps some of you to this day may have by you a Tragedy in five acts, or at least a Farce in one, but written many years ago. (Cheers.) I know when I was not seventeen years of age I wrote a tragedy myself, all in blank verse, and which I had the temerity to send to the great tragedian of that day, the illustrious Edmund Kean (applause), whose opinion was that my subject was too repulsive for representation; but shortly after, on becoming an actor myself in a barn at Hastings, this tragedian was lodging at a cottage on the coast of that town for the purpose of studying a new part; he recognised the young tragic poet, and, as my benefit was announced at that time, he called at the Theatre, took two box tickets of me, and gave me two guineas for them. And, gentlemen, when I plead in behalf of the members of the Stage and of the Theatre I am pleading in behalf of an Institution which you have often been told is an instructor. But, gentlemen, it is not only an instructor; it not only elevates the mind, exposes folly, and cultivates the fancy, but it is a physician, as I can show you by an anecdote. Eighteen years ago, when our first festival was given, Mr. Charles Dickens was our Chairman on that occasion, as he now is our last. It took place on a Monday in Passion Week, I was at Dumfries on the previous Saturday, and playing at the Theatre there on the evening. The house was well filled, particularly the



dress boxes, but the occupants of that part of the house, instead of being listless or inattentive, as they sometimes are in the London Theatres, were uproarious in their laughter and loud in their applause, every joke or humorous passage was taken by them with immense expressions of delight, and the play "went off," as it is termed, triumphantly. At the end of it, I remarked to the Manager what an excellent audience it had been, and how every point was understood and appreciated, but particularly by the parties in the dress boxes; they laughed louder than any other persons in the Theatre. "Yes replied the Manager," "they did enjoy themselves amazingly. Do you know what they all are?" "No," I answered. "Well, sir," said he, "they are all mad people." (Laughter.) It is the system of our doctor at the lunatic asylum here to amuse his patients in every way in his power, and he had taken pretty well all the seats in the dress circle, and brought them here to entertain them, and afterwards the doctor informed me how much his party had been delighted, and how he was sure their coming to the play would do them a great deal of good." (Increased laughter.) Gentlemen, seeing the ladies still seated by themselves, and cruelly parted from our sides, I must tell you it is yet an undecided point whether in future they shall not sit down and dine with us; but as I have promised to be Chairman next Ash Wednesday, at another Dramatic Fund Dinner, where ladies *do* sit down, I shall have an opportunity of observing how the system works, and if I find it very comfortable, as I am certain I shall, I intend to recommend the Directors of our Fund to do the same thing, and then you can bring your wives and sweethearts, and by your liberal donations prove to them what noble and generous hearts you have given or have to bestow upon them. (Cheers.) And now, Gentlemen, I have told you what we do with our money; you have seen, or can see our balance sheet, you can be convinced that every penny we receive and expend is put down, and that all our accounts are kept in a clear, honest, and straightforward way, and that so far from the Actor being, as is vulgarly supposed by some persons, an improviden

and careless person, you will find him to be in matters of business a very good match for many of our City gentlemen; therefore, knowing what we are, knowing the object for which we have met here to night, I am convinced, when our polite Stewards stand at your elbows, with their little scraps of paper for you to fill up, you will largely and freely "post the cole." (General cheering, which lasted some minutes.)

The CHAIRMAN—It now becomes me, like a well graced Actor, to retire from the scene, and make place for a better graced Actor. I have next to propose to you "The Drama". Looking round the table upon my left to see whom I should call upon to return thanks for that toast, my eye lightened upon the face of a valued and esteemed friend of mine whom I last heard of at a considerable distance, in Nice, and whom I am surprised and gratified to find has graced this board to night. Allow me to propose "The Drama," and to connect with that toast the respected name of Mr. Alfred Wigan. (Loud cheering.)

The toast having been warmly responded to,

Mr. WIGAN, who was most enthusiastically received, said—Ladies and Gentlemen,—There must be still fresh in your recollection the speech made by our distinguished Chairman—the brilliancy of his wit, the playfulness of his fancy, and the tender, manly pathos of the words he addressed to you on behalf of the General Theatrical Fund.—I am sure you feel as I do, that he occupies a dear place in the hearts of all his countrymen. There is a proverb that every dark cloud has a silver lining, but I think I may also say that every silver cloud has a dark lining. That distinguished man has a character for humanity and generosity, (hear, hear), but, gentlemen, the greatest men sometimes fail. How has he carried out that character on the present occasion? He has fixed on me, a humble, unpretending, quiet individual, at ten minutes notice—gentlemen, I may almost say without notice—although during the time that has elapsed between receiving that notice and the present time I have been entertained by the conversation of my friend Mr. T. P. Cooke—he



has called upon me, at that short notice, to return thanks, and to make a speech upon a subject that would require years to expatiate upon—the DRAMA. He has done this in cool blood, gentlemen. (Laughter.) I am not aware that I ever did him any harm in my life. (Laughter.) I believe that I did some years ago, act in a piece that he wrote, but however bad that performance may have been, it was so long ago that he might have forgiven me. (Laughter.) However, here I am. He has sent me to my account, as the Ghost, in *Hamlet*, says, with all my imperfections on my head. I admire him, I esteem him, I love him; but I must say—and here, perhaps, I may be allowed to relate a little anecdote. There was an old Scotch woman who lived to a great age, but who was somewhat discontented with her lot. It was represented to her that she had a great deal to be thankful for; for she was nearly ninety; she had had a large family of good and dutiful children; she had had excellent health up to the time of her mortal illness. All this was represented to her, and she admitted all this, but she said, “Eh, Minister, he has taken it out of me in corns.” (Laughter.) Now, much as I am indebted to my much esteemed friend, Mr. Dickens, I must say that on the present occasion he has taken it out of me in a speech. (Laughter.) Gentlemen, I cannot conceive why he should have called upon me, or have associated my name with the Drama. I am not a writer of Dramas; I make but attempts to interpret the Drama. However, here I am. It will be objected, perhaps, by the amiable persons to whom our chairman has alluded, that the Drama at present does not represent any very great specimens either of writers or of the interpreters of the writers; but we must bear in mind that every great Art has its periods of *lacunæ*—of deficit. There is always a certain blank in every Art. Perhaps we are now in that state; but we are in a country that possesses the greatest Drama the world has ever known. You have all read the play of Æschylus, of Euripides, and of Terence. The Drama that boasts of the name of Shakspeare is the greatest in the world, and although

we may have no Shaksperes and no Garricks, still we have amongst us very great writers and very great creators, and I think we have in the chair a man, perhaps, who has created more characters and more creations than any man since the days of Shakspeare (cheers); and, although unfortunately for us Actors, though fortunately for his own purse, he has not brought those creations in the Dramatic form, he has still so cultivated, and so formed, and so prepared the mind of his time, that when the great Dramatist comes he will find us prepared to receive him. (Cheers.) It does not appear to me that I have anything more to say to you than that I am very thankful to you for the attention with which you have heard me. (Much cheering.)

Mr. EDMUND YATES, who was received with much cheering, said—Gentlemen,—In a novel, which has been read by one or two persons, called “Nicholas Nickleby, the Theatrical Manager, Mr. Crummles, in giving directions to the author of a piece about to be written, insists upon the introduction of a certain pump and various tubs, of which he has recently been the happy purchaser, and which he must have brought prominently forward. It has often struck me that a person having to propose the toast which has been allotted to me, and which, to keep you no longer in suspense, is the health of your Chairman, must feel like the author of the piece, while the pump and tubs are represented by certain set phrases which custom requires him to use. The Chairman may very probably be almost an entire stranger to the toast-proposer, and yet the latter has to speak of him as “my honourable friend,” if he will allow me to call him so. He has to enter into rhapsodies about his honourable friend’s virtues and talents, of which he knows nothing at all; and after a quotation from Shakspeare which he does not understand, and from Horace which he cannot pronounce, he sits down, having covered the Chairman and himself with an equal amount of glory and misery. How light and how genial then is my task, when the health I have

to propose is that of Mr. Charles Dickens! No need to speak to you of his God-gifted genius, for that at once appeals to all, to the young and to the old, to the grave and to the gay, to the reflective and the thoughtless; he possesses the "Open Sesame" to that cave where dwell the guardian-spirits of Humour and Pathos, and lets forth either at his will for the delight of the civilised world. And, gentlemen, to the Theatrical Profession, to which so many of you here present belong, with which I myself have an hereditary connection, and of which I may almost say I have recently become a member, he should be specially dear. The Stage and its professors have frequently formed the subject-matter of the novelist's pen. Sometimes they have been treated kindly, sometimes patronisingly, sometimes a little cynically, but never with so much real knowledge, never with so much pleasant humour, never with so much genial warmth, as by Mr. Dickens. Among all the literary men of the day, he, the greatest, is emphatically the Actor's friend. For this reason I call upon you to give him even extraordinary honour; for this reason I call upon you to add your cheers to that universal shout of affectionate regard which greets the mention of his name wherever the English tongue is spoken.

The CHAIRMAN—Ladies and Gentlemen, I will only assure you on behalf of myself that I am deeply indebted to you, as I always am, for your kind reception, and that I am also deeply indebted to my friend on my right (Mr. Yates) for the kind and feeling terms in which he proposed my health, during which impressive speech my excellent friend Buckstone whispered in my ear that he had often nursed that young man on his knee (laughter), which I don't believe. (Increased laughter.) As I am on my legs, as the Parliamentary phrase is, I will not be off my legs without proposing to you another toast. "Coming events cast their shadows before," and coming events cast their lights before also, and as we have among us



to-night a gentleman highly esteemed in the City, and by all who know him, who will shortly become Lord Mayor, and who has passed through the important preliminary office of Sheriff, as to which, we were once assured by a Sheriff at this Dinner that he knew of no Actor who had ever been hanged (laughter), in reply to which I had the pleasure of informing him, on the part of the Dramatic Profession, that I knew of no Sheriff who had ever been hanged (increased laughter)—I say, that as we have among us a gentleman whom we are disposed to make so welcome, I will, if you please, propose his health in connection with the City. Allow me to propose “The City of London and Mr. Alderman Phillips.”

The toast was drunk with much enthusiasm, Mr. Alderman PHILLIPS replying as follows:—

Mr. Chairman, Ladies, and Gentlemen—I came here to-night to offer my humble testimony of admiration, and to aid this valuable Institution, because I belong to those “Mayors who prefer the wicked players to the puppets,” believing, as I do, that they confer a high and inestimable benefit on society; and I came here to listen to the brilliancy, the wit, and the pathos of your greatly gifted Chairman—to be charmed and instructed by the powers of his poetic eloquence, as I and countless thousands have been by the powers of his prolific pen. I came also to listen to the humour of Mr. Buckstone, and to the sensible, gentlemanly, and unaffected speaking of Mr. Wigan. In no one of these have I been disappointed; but I have been greatly disappointed that my honourable friend, your Chairman—if, notwithstanding the “gentle hints” of our friend Yates, I dare venture so to call him—should have thought me worthy, at this the “Players’ Feast,” of so high and unexpected a compliment, and have so honoured me in this distinguished company. But it is my good fortune on this occasion to represent that ancient and valued body, the Corporation of the City of London, and your Chairman has thought proper to honour that institution in my person, and when I

found myself placed on the left of the "distinguished Mr. Dickens," and on the right of the "illustrious Mr. Buckstone," I felt my chances of making a speech were "poor indeed," and that my presumption in attempting it would be great; but, gentlemen, I rose at your bidding, "and here I am and here we are." I have done my best, and if I dare again encroach on the warnings of my friend Yates, I would venture to conclude with a quotation, which I assure him "I clearly understand, and so will you":—

That man I trow is doubly curst,  
Who of the best doth make the worst;  
But he I'm sure is doubly blest,  
Who of the worst doth make the best.

The CHAIRMAN—You know what the last toast always is; it is "The Ladies," and upon this subject I have a very considerable crow to pick with my friend Mr. Buckstone, who has taken great credit to himself to-night for a certainly new mooted idea in abeyance here, as to whether ladies shall dine at this table. I did enunciate against this Fund the terrific threat ten years ago, that if the ladies did not dine here I never would come here again. (Laughter.) Unless next Ash-Wednesday's experience satisfies Mr. Buckstone that the ladies ought to dine here, I shall invite the ladies to a General Theatrical Fund Supper-Dinner at the Freemason's Tavern, on which occasion, if they will do me the honour to allow me to receive them as their Chairman, they will hear something to Mr. Buckstone's disadvantage, which he would much rather not hear himself. (Much laughter.) We are always delighted to see the ladies anywhere, but particularly here. I have been delighted myself to see them under all manner of circumstances, and I have felt the want of them peculiarly. (Laughter.) Upon a certain occasion some years ago, I was acting in Canada with some of our officers, when no ladies were to be found, and when it was absolutely necessary that young and newly-caught officers should supply their places; upon which occasion, in order that they might acquire some-

thing of the feminine walk, it was found absolutely necessary to tie their legs. Upon another occasion I witnessed the representation of *Black Eyed Susan* at a country theatre, when I was delighted to find the court-martial composed of, I think, eight young ladies, with very perceptible back-hair, and very perceptible combs, who had put on the conventional notaries' gowns and sat down at a table, and represented themselves to the public as midshipmen. Still it was charming to see them, and I never was so delighted in my life to see a real midshipmen as I was to see those false midshipmen. (Laughter.) Now I have one other crow to pick with Mr. Buckstone. I particularly object to the arrangement of these tables, and I particularly object to it for two reasons; in the first place, when I preside at, or when I attend one of these dinners, I am always in the most tantalising position possible, inasmuch as I always want to look this way (facing the ladies), and I am obliged to look this (facing the gentlemen). Also I never have so painful a sense that my hair is a little going behind. (Laughter.) So that on this occasion—if you will take my word for it—I assure you that I have overheard to-night one or two very distressing expressions upon the subject. (Laughter.) Nay, more, ladies and gentlemen, although I am always so delighted to see the ladies, I really would rather see them in front of me (laughter); but here, or there, or anywhere, or everywhere, we are always delighted to see them, and let us drink their health.

The toast was drunk upstanding, with three times three, and “one fire more.”

The company then separated.

That the dinner provided by Messrs. Shrewsbury and Elkington fully maintained the reputation of those experienced caterers the freely expressed eulogies of those who enjoyed the abundance of the excellent vivands placed before them satisfactorily attested. The wines were also selected with great care, and the whole arrangements were indicative of commingled



judgment and liberality. The organisation of the administrative department was likewise greatly to be commended, and the attendants glided about with a celerity, and anticipated wants with a precision, which showed they had established among themselves a pleasant understanding of the familiar Shaksperian line, and felt assured of something more than health and a good digestion being necessary to "wait on appetite."

The musical arrangements, under the direction of Mr. Coote, who presided at the grand pianoforte, kindly lent for the occasion by Messrs. Collard and Collard, contributed greatly to the enjoyment of the evening. The *artistes* who gave their valuable aid were Mrs. Howard Paul, Miss Eyles, Miss Julia Coote, Miss Edith Wynne, Mr. W. J. Fielding, Mr. R. Barnby, Mr. Donald King, Mr. T. Lawler, Mr. James Coward, Mr. Walworth, and Mr. Leonard Walker; whilst Mr. J. Balsir Chatterton (harpist to her Majesty) and Mr. Thomas performed some beautiful Welsh airs on the harp. Miss Edith Wynne was encored in her Welsh song, and the dramatic power Mrs. Howard Paul threw into the old song of "Rory O'More" elicited a similar compliment, when, with equal effect and energy, she sang the drinking song from *Martha*, "Now tell me, good friends, if you can," which elicited great applause.

We should not omit to state that the ladies' gallery and dais at end of the Hall was graced by the presence of a number of the fairer sex, whose persuasive smiles, doubtless, helped to increase the donations that the cause so well deserved, and for which the Chairman had so eloquently pleaded. We noticed present:—Mrs. J. B. Buckstone, Miss Annie Buckstone, Miss Kate Hickson, Mrs. Barnett, Miss Thomassin, Mrs. and Miss Cullenford, Miss Clark.

The Stewards were exceedingly attentive, and the worthy and respected Secretary (Mr. Cullenford) also greatly assisted in perfecting the general arrangements.

The onerous duties of Toastmaster were discharged in a very efficient manner by Mr. Spencer.

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In the course of the evening Mr. CULLENFORD, the indefatigable Secretary, read the following List of Subscriptions.



# LIST OF DONATIONS.

	Donation.			Annual.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen ..				100	0	0
C. Dickens, Esq. (Chairman) ..	5	0	0			
The Dowager Duchess of Northumberland ..	10	0	0			
The Baron Lionel de Rothschild, M.P. ..				10	10	0
H. M. Parker, Esq. ..				10	10	0
George Robert Stephenson, Esq. ..	5	5	0			
Charles Kean, Esq., F.S.A. ..				5	5	0
Benjamin Webster, Esq., T.R. New Adelphi ..				5	5	0
Wilkie Collins, Esq. ..	5	5	0			
Sims Reeves, Esq. ..	5	5	0			
Messrs. Robson & Emden, T.R. Olympic ..	5	5	0			
Mr. Alderman Phillips ..	5	5	0			
H. V. Swanborough, Esq. ..	5	5	0			
Jules Benedict, Esq. ..	5	5	0			
Frederick Cousens, Esq. ..	5	5	0			
Wm. Wilde, Jun., Esq. ..	5	5	0			
Alfred Wigan, Esq. ..	5	5	0			
Edward Warwick, Esq. ..				5	5	0
Thomas J. Jerwood, Esq. ..				5	5	0
Daniel Cronin, Esq. ..	5	5	0			
W. H. West Betty, Esq. ..				5	0	0
Mrs. Theodore Martin ..				5	0	0
T. P. Cooke, Esq. ..				5	5	0
John Cunningham, Esq. ..	5	5	0			
John Reddish, Esq. ..				3	3	0
Wm. Creswick, Esq. ..				3	3	0
W. H. Wills, Esq. ..	3	3	0			
John Matthew, Esq. ..				3	3	0
W. Bodham Donne, Esq., Her Majesty's Licensor of Plays ..				2	2	0
R. Miller, Esq. ..				2	2	0
William Raymond Sams, Esq. ..				2	2	0
John Douglass, Esq. ..				2	2	0
George Borlase Childs, Esq. ..	2	2	0			

				Donation.			Annual.		
				£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
W. S. Burton, Esq.	..	..	..	2	2	0			
Howard Paul, Esq.	..	..	..	2	2	0			
L. V. Flatou, Esq.	..	..	..	2	2	0			
Charles Clement, Esq.	..	..	..				2	2	0
Frederic Ledger, Esq., Proprietor of "THE ERA" (17th annual donation)	..	..	..				2	2	0
A Friend of the Chairman	..	..	..	1	1	0			
Mrs. Mackenzie	..	..	..				1	1	0
Miss Emma King	..	..	..				1	1	0
George Rouse, Esq.	..	..	..				1	1	0
— Blencowe, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
Captain Henry Ward	..	..	..	1	1	0			
R. P. Monk, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
G. Eagle, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
J. H. Hershaw, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
Richard Churchill, Esq.	..	..	..				1	1	0
Charles A. Cole, Esq.	..	..	..				1	1	0
Frank Musgrove, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
Frederick Buckstone, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
Thomas Williams, Esq.	..	..	..				1	1	0
George Measom, Esq.	..	..	..				1	1	0
John Farnell, Esq.	..	..	..				1	1	0
William T. Farnell, Esq.	..	..	..				1	1	0
E. H. Burnell, Esq.	..	..	..				1	1	0
Horatio G. Day, Esq.	..	..	..				1	1	0
H. Haddock, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
J. W. Dantziger, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
Miss Nelly Grey	..	..	..				1	1	0
John Boothby, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
George Kelly, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
P. H. Brady, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
John Brady, Esq., M.P.	..	..	..				1	1	0
E. P. Addison, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
L. P. Cox, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
L. Farmer, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
Charles Dickens, Esq., Jun.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
Frederick Fenton, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
Frederick Frampton, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
— Southgate, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
Walter T. Fawcett, Esq.	..	..	..				1	1	0
Henry Hill, Esq.	..	..	..				1	1	0
E. B. Sutton, Esq.	..	..	..				1	1	0
W. Bird, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
W. N. Rudge, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
Dr. Bridge	..	..	..	1	1	0			
D. O'Connor, Esq.	..	..	..				1	1	0
B. H. Becker, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
W. Goody, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
— Watson, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
Joseph Lavender, Esq.	..	..	..				1	1	0
J. Grosjean, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
Edmund Yates, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			

				Donation.			Annual.		
				£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Henry Greaves, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
H. S. Tubb, Esq.	..	..	..				1	1	0
C. D. Singer, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
Charles Jack, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
F. G. Debenham, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
C. N.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
H. F. Clare, Esq.	..	..	..				1	1	0
Lewis Filmore, Esq.	..	..	..				1	1	0
C. R.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
Sydney Kennedy, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
George Ullathorne, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
H. M. Arliss, Esq.	..	..	..				1	1	0
F. F. Dillon Croker, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
P. A. Scheydt, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
Stirling Coyne, Esq.	..	..	..				1	1	0
Thos. Scott, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
John Hopkins, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
Anonymous	..	..	..	1	11	6			
J. Grant's Friend	..	..	..	1	1	0			
John Povey, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
J. J. Tindall, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
George Turpin, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
A Friend, per ditto	..	..	..	1	1	0			
W. H. Chippendale, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
Thomas Coe, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
Friend of Mr. Coe	..	..	..	1	1	0			
W. R. C.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
W. H. C.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
Thomas Scott, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
Wm. Searle, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
A Friend of Mr. Searle	..	..	..	1	0	0			
Andrew Connor, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
James Lovegrove, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
Robert Murphy, Esq.	..	..	..	1	0	0			
Wm. Painter, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
John Bell, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
Dr. T. Shepherd	..	..	..	1	1	0			
W. Costa, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
H. J. Semple, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
C. J. Stone, Esq.	..	..	..				1	1	0
H. T. Craven, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
Thomas Sadgrove, Esq.	..	..	..				1	1	0
R. Moxey, Esq.	..	..	..				1	1	0
J. M. Aird, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
Martin Pratt, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
Jos. Frith, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
John W. Fentiman, Esq.	..	..	..				1	1	0
R. W. Fleming, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
J. W. Lovesy, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
J. C. Pawle, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
Henry Huggins, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
George Child, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			

				Donation.			Annual.		
				£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
John Bolton, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
David Nicholson, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
Henry Loraine, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
Peter Berlyn, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
W. S. Hale, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
E. Canton, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
E. W. Cathie, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
J. H. Cathie, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
— Whistler, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			
Edward Tinsley, Esq.	..	..	..	1	1	0			

# FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 10, 1863.

## RECEIPTS.

	£	s.	d.
By Admission Fees .....	30	0	0
" Members' Subscriptions .....	700	13	10½
" Dividends on Stock (less Income Tax) .....	342	11	2
" Income Tax Returned.....	13	4	4
" Profit of Dinner (less Arrears) .....	271	14	6
" Interest in lapsed Legacy of the late Lady Morgan .....	8	1	7
" Arrears of 1861 .....	22	1	0
" Reserve Fund .....	24	16	10½
	<u>£1,413</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>

## EXPENDITURE.

	£	s.	d.
To Widow of Member Deceased .....	33	4	0
" Return Payments, R. H. W. ....	32	13	4
" " Mrs. W. ....	21	12	0
" Printing .....	13	0	0
" Gas and Attendant .....	1	18	0
" Stamps and Stationery .....	3	11	0
" Housekeeper's Bill, and sundry small items ...	2	17	4½
" Secretary's Salary.....	80	0	0
" Annuitants.....	802	10	0
" Balance .....	421	17	7½
	<u>£1,413</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>

## CAPITAL.

	£	s.	d.
Balance February, 1862 .....	12,142	17	8½
Less paid from Reserve Fund .....	24	16	10½
	<u>12,118</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>10</u>
Balance February, 1863 .....	421	17	7½
	<u>£12,539</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>5½</u>

## ASSETS.

	£	s.	d.
Invested in the Purchase of £12,243 13s. 9d. New Threes .....	12,073	6	9
Messrs. Coutts .....	407	10	4
Treasurer .....	59	1	4½
	<u>£12,539</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>5½</u>

We, the Auditors appointed by the Members, certify that we have examined the Books, Vouchers, &c., and find them and the above statement correct.

GEORGE WEATHERSBY, } AUDITORS.  
RICHARD AUSTIN LEE, }

(Countersigned) WILLIAM CULLENFORD, Secretary.





**The following is a List of the Subscribing Members of the  
General Theatrical Fund.**

Adams, Miss C.	Cullenford, Mr.
Addison, Mr.	Cullenford, Mrs.
Anson, Mr. J. W.	Cullenford, Mr. G. Everett
Ashton, Miss	Daly, Miss
Baker, Mr.	Darion, Miss J.
Barnett, Mrs. R.	Dyas, Mr.
Barrowcliffe, Mrs.	Dyas, Mrs.
Beale, Mrs.	Eburne, Mrs. W. H.
Bellair, Mr. John	Edgar, Mr.
Bellair, Mr. T. S.	Edgar, Mrs.
Bellini, Madame (late Miss Cicely Nott)	Egan, Mrs.
Bennett, Miss Fanny	Ellis, Mrs.
Blanchard, Mrs.	Ellis, Mr. G. B.
Boden, Miss R.	Elton, Miss C.
Boden, Miss H.	Evans, Miss M. A.
Braid, Mr. G. R.	Fisher, Mr. David
Buckstone, Mr. J. B.	Fitzpatrick, Miss
Butler, Mr. H.	Frampton, Mr. F.
Butler, Mr. R.	Fredericks, Mr. L.
Byers, Miss	Gill, Mr. C.
Byers, Miss A. E.	Glover, Mrs. E.
Cathcart, Mr. J. F.	Goodwin, Miss Clara
Chester, Mr. J.	Harding, Miss Emma
Chute, Mr. H.	Harris, Mrs. (late Miss Julia Nicol)
Chute, Mrs. M. E.	Hicks, Mr. N. T.
Clark, Mr.	Hodson, Mrs. G.
Cleaver, Miss	Honner, Miss Ellen
Clifford, Mr. T.	Honner, Mrs. R.
Clifton, Mr. E.	Hoskins, Mr. W.
Clifton, Mrs.	Howard, Mr. J.
Coe, Mr.	Horwood, Mrs.
Cooke, Miss J.	Howe, Mr.
Cooke, Mr. G. B.	Hughes, Mrs. H.
Cooke, Miss Jessie	Jackman, Mr. C.
Cooper, Mr. W.	Jecks, Mrs.
Coreno, Mr.	Lacy, Mr. T. & H.
Cowell, Mr. S.	Lacy, Mrs. T. H.
Cowsel, Mr.	Lambert, Mr. J. C.
Craven, Mr. H. T.	Larkin, Miss Sophia
Craven, Miss	Larkins, Miss

Larkins, Mrs.  
 Leclercq, Mrs.  
 Lee, Miss Clara  
 Lee, Mr. R. A.  
 Lees, Miss M.  
 Lemmon, Miss  
 Lewin, Miss E.  
 Lewis, Mrs. H.  
 Loveday, Miss  
 Lyon, Mr.  
 Mathews, Mr. C. J.  
 Mellon, Mrs. A. (late Miss Woolgar)  
 Mellon, Mr. H.  
 Melville, Mrs. C.  
 Milano, Mr. J.  
 Milano, Mrs.  
 Montgomery, Mrs.  
 Morelli, Mr.  
 Morelli, Mr. C. S.  
 Morelli, Miss  
 Morelli, Miss Emma  
 Morgan, Mrs.  
 Morgan, Mr. F.  
 Morris, Mr.  
 Morant, Miss Fanny  
 Morton, Mr. F.  
 Murray, Mr. D.  
 Murray, Mrs. Leigh  
 Murray, Mrs. G.  
 Murray, Mr. Gaston  
 Osbaldiston, Mr. G.  
 Phelps, Mr.  
 Phelps, Mr. Edmund  
 Phillips, Mrs.  
 Poynter, Mr.  
 Poynter, Mrs.  
 Powell, Mrs.  
 Procter, Miss  
 Rawlings, Miss  
 Ray, Mr. J. W.  
 Rayner, Mr. Alfred  
 Reynolds, Mr. J.  
 Reynolds, Mrs.  
 Rignold, Mr. G. R.  
 Rignold, Mr. W.  
 Rignold, Mr. H.  
 Rignold, Mr. William, junr.

Ronca, Mrs. Harris  
 Saunders, Miss C.  
 Saville, Mrs. J. F.  
 Saville, Mrs. E. F.  
 Saville, Mr. A.  
 Searle, Mr. W.  
 Seymour, Mrs.  
 Shirley, Mr. W.  
 Sinclair, Mr. H.  
 Smythson, Mr. G.  
 Smythson, Mr. M.  
 Spencer, Mrs.  
 Staunton, Mrs.  
 Stephens, Mrs.  
 Stephenson, Mr.  
 Stephenson, Mrs.  
 St. George, Miss Julia  
 Stirling, Mr. A.  
 Stoddart, Mr.  
 Stoddart, Mrs.  
 Stoker, Miss  
 Stoneham, Mrs. Adelaide  
 Tedder, Mr. G.  
 Turner, Mr. H. J.  
 Victor, Miss M. A.  
 Villiers, Mr. E.  
 Villiers, Mr. F.  
 Vincent, Mrs. C.  
 Vivash, Miss  
 Walton, Mrs.  
 Walker, Miss  
 Walker, Mrs.  
 Weathersby, Mr.  
 White, Mrs. C.  
 Widdicomb, Mr. H.  
 Williams, Mr.  
 Wilton, Mr. Fred.  
 Wilton, Mrs.  
 Worrell, Mr.  
 Wolfenden, Mrs.  
 Winstanley, Mrs.  
 Wood, Mrs.  
 Wood, Mrs. C.  
 Wright, Miss Fanny  
 Wright, Mr. Alexander  
 Young, Mrs.  
 Younge, Mr. A.

## FORM OF BEQUEST.

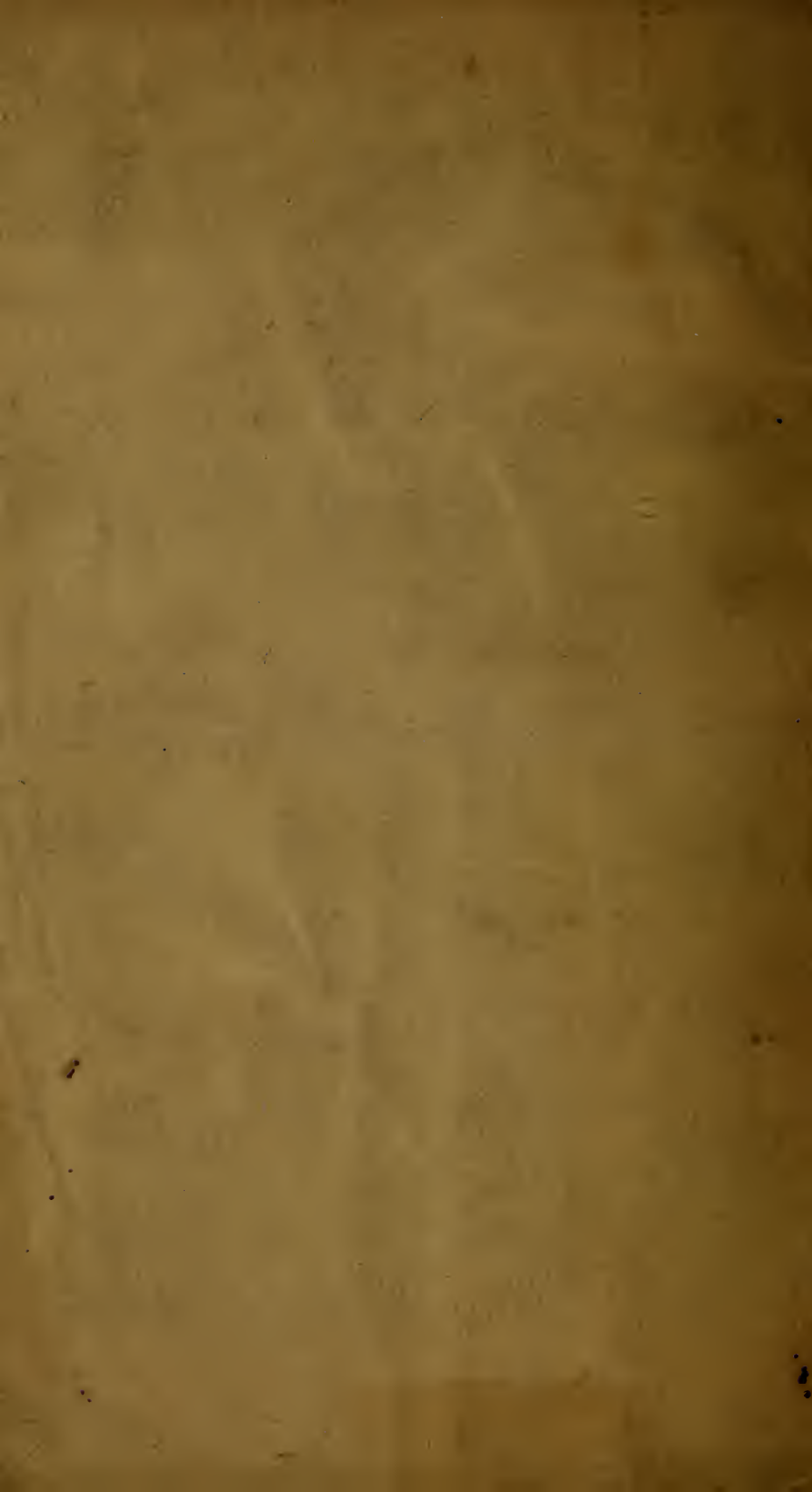
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*“I give and bequeath unto the Treasurer for the time being of a Society called or known by the name of ‘THE ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND,’ the sum of* *Pounds,*  
*to be paid out of my personal Estate, not charged on land, to be applied towards carrying on the laudable designs of the said Institution.*















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